

# Dante Oggi



Per la promozione della lingua e della cultura italiana



dicembre 2019



Dear members and supporters of the Dante Alighieri Society,

This edition of *Dante Oggi* is the only one which we have been able to produce for the year, but it highlights many of our activities. Thank you to Paolo Baracchi for editing and to Celeste Centioli for her unending support and expertise in formatting this magazine. I also thank all those who have contributed to this edition with interesting articles and reports of our activities. Thank-you Jana Adzic, who returned from her studies in Italy and presented a very comprehensive report. Past scholarship winners keep the Society informed of the programs and initiatives that they are implementing in their schools. During all my visits to both primary and secondary schools I observe a strong commitment and enthusiasm for the language and culture which is being transmitted to the students. This is invigorating and I am always happy to visit schools! Congratulations to Maria Daniele of Loyola College and Patrizia Testa from Springside West Secondary College who are the Scholarship recipients 2019. They will travel to Italy in the coming months.

I am particularly grateful to the Consul General of Italy Pierluigi Trombetta for accepting to write a reflection since his arrival in Melbourne. I thank him for the support and encouragement he is giving to the Society. I know that he is keen to continue elevating not only the Italian language but to promote many aspects of Italian culture and industry for Australia to enjoy.

Congratulations to Dr. Dominic Barbaro who will resume his presidency of the Society in 2020. His leadership and concern for what is best for this Society, demonstrates his sincere commitment to his responsibility and under his guidance we can always look forward to bringing you more significant cultural events.

The work of the *Giovani* has been an inspiration for which I am truly grateful. Looking to next year, work has begun to recruit younger people to the membership. Younger members will generate new energy and new ideas! Planning of events has already begun that will take us to May 2020. Some are already noted in these pages for your diary.

My thanks to all the committee and co-opted members for their involvement this year. With everyone's continued collaboration and participation, I am sure that we will enjoy many more birthdays!

**Buon Natale and a very happy 2020!**

Mary Marcuccio

## La Dante come colonna della lingua e cultura italiana



Durante i miei due anni trascorsi a Melbourne ho avuto lo straordinario piacere di osservare in prima persona cosa la Dante Alighieri realizza e ha realizzato in questa città. Ho potuto in particolare osservare e rendermi conto del grande impegno, della dedizione, della diligenza ma soprattutto dell'estrema devozione che la Società Dante Alighieri, il suo Presidente Domenico Barbaro, il suo Comitato direttivo ed i suoi soci pongono nel loro operato.

Quella della Società Dante Alighieri di Melbourne è una storia segnata e definita non solo dal costante impegno nella promozione della lingua italiana, ma anche dal ruolo attivo nella promozione culturale, cosa che fa della Dante Alighieri una delle entità più importanti e visibili della bellissima comunità italiana del Victoria.

Apprezzo in particolar modo l'attenzione e l'impegno nella diffusione dell'insegnamento della lingua italiana, obiettivo che viene raggiunto grazie prima di tutto all'amore che i soci hanno per la nostra bellissima lingua, che, non a caso, è spesso definita la "lingua di Dante". Oltremodo ammirevole è inoltre il ricco calendario di iniziative culturali che vengono portate avanti ogni anno offrendo al pubblico di Melbourne un panorama culturale italiano vasto ed interessante che contribuisce alla promozione del nostro bellissimo Paese in Australia.

La Dante Alighieri nel mondo è attiva da circa 120 anni e la Dante Alighieri di Melbourne è stata ed è un pezzo fondamentale di questa storia che avvolge l'intero globo terrestre. Se infatti l'Australia è il Paese con il più elevato numero al mondo di persone che studiano l'italiano, grande merito per questo va dato ai Comitati Australiani della Dante Alighieri. La Società Dante Alighieri di Melbourne può quindi certamente dirsi orgogliosa dei traguardi raggiunti negli anni e sono certo che tutta la Comunità italiana di Melbourne, che conta quasi mezzo milione di persone, gliene è grata.

Inoltre, a testimonianza della serietà della Società Dante Alighieri, forse non tutti sanno che le nuove regole per l'acquisto della cittadinanza italiana per matrimonio richiedono un test di conoscenza della lingua italiana, test che la Dante Alighieri può rilasciare.

Quindi posso senz'altro affermare che la Società Dante Alighieri è uno dei più importanti attori nel panorama culturale italo-australiano e non posso che concludere ringraziando il suo Presidente, il dott. Domenico Barbaro, e tutti i soci per quanto fanno per la lingua e la cultura italiana e, in sintesi, per quanto fanno per l'Italia. Grazie.

### Pierluigi Trombetta

Console Generale del Victoria e Tasmania



*Il Console Pierluigi Trombetta con il Presidente della Dante Melbourne, Dominic Barbaro*

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### Giosuè Carducci e la Società Dante Alighieri (Gianni Rizzoni, Società Dante Alighieri, Libri Scheiwiller srl, Milano, 2006)



Il 21 novembre del 1888 il patriota triestino Giacomo Venezian scrive a Giosuè Carducci una lettera in cui, per la prima volta, si propone di costituire una Società per la tutela e la diffusione della Lingua Italiana: «...chi può dire la parola, chi può esprimere l'idea atta a risvegliare le migliori energie del popolo italiano, a far lampeggiare nelle coscienze da opposte correnti di pensiero inturbidate, la luce di un ideale purissimo, se non Giosuè Carducci?» Il poeta Carducci risponde subito all'appello con tutto il suo entusiasmo. A lui si deve l'idea di dare alla Società il nome di Dante, il riferimento più significativo alla nascita della comune lingua nazionale, patrimonio di cui la nascente Società diventa custode e propugnatrice. Nel 1889 viene pubblicato e diffuso il "Manifesto agli Italiani", pensato da Carducci e scritto dal suo fidato amico Giuseppe Chiarini: «Dovunque sono fratelli nostri che vogliono o debbano rimanere tali, ivi è un pezzo di Patria che non possiamo dimenticare.» Nel 1889, ormai formata la Società a Roma, Carducci promuove la costituzione del Comitato di Bologna assumendone la presidenza. Memorabile il discorso da lui pronunciato il 12 marzo del 1890 nel corso della seduta inaugurale: «La nostra non è una Società letteraria né politica, ma qualcosa di più nobile e di più alto, una Società Nazionale, sorta col proposito, non di aggredire alcuno, ma di difendere ciò che è il nostro patrimonio e la nostra speranza: la LINGUA E LA NAZIONALITÀ ITALIANA.»

Nel 2007 durante il LXXVIII Congresso Internazionale della Società Dante Alighieri tenutasi a Roma e in parte dedicato alla commemorazione del centenario della morte del suo fondatore Giosuè Carducci, il Presidente Ambasciatore Bruno Bottai afferma che: «Il Congresso ha la funzione di rafforzare lo scopo statutario della Dante, quello cioè di "Tutelare e diffondere la lingua e la cultura italiana nel mondo, ravvivando i legami spirituali dei connazionali all'estero con la madre Patria e alimentando tra gli stranieri l'amore e il culto per la civiltà italiana"».

**Mary Marcuccio**

## 2019 President's Report

It gives me great pleasure to present my report on the activities of Dante Alighieri Society for the year 2019. First and foremost, I wish to thank the membership for entrusting me once again with the leadership of the Society. I thank my hardworking committee for successfully carrying out our range of ever increasing and innovative activities with so much passion and enthusiasm which you will follow in the *Dante Oggi*. Congratulations and *mille grazie* to you all.

The year commenced with us consolidating the Society's links with the Sede Centrale in Rome with the aim of consolidating our belonging to this wonderfully important global organization whilst at the same time maintaining our local autonomy for the promotion of language and cultural activities.

**At the July 2019 International Conference of DAS in Buenos Aires**, the concepts of *Made in Italy*, *Ital Simpatia*, *Italianità*, were explored in depth by the President Prof. Andrea Riccardi, the Secretary General Dr. Alessandro Masi and – which was especially inspirational – by none other than the President of Italy – Sergio Mattarella. The internet provided the opportunity for our Dante Giovani to directly link to the Conference.

The year presented us with a wealth of opportunities to consolidate our links with the Consulate General of Italy in Victoria, the Italian Embassy in Canberra, CO.AS.IT, its Museo Italiano and its Italian Historical Society, the Italian Institute of Culture, the Italian Chamber of Commerce, *Il Globo* Newspaper, Rete Italia radio station, public and private schools where Italian is taught, and other community organizations.

We were delighted to support the new initiative of *Il Globo* with their monthly insert "In Classe". This coincided with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of *Il Globo*. Again, I extend congratulations and best wishes to directors and staff on behalf of the membership.

**Ceremony of Excellence Celebration 2019** – held at Assisi Aged Care Centre.

Students of Italian at Melbourne, Monash, La Trobe and Swinburne Universities were awarded monetary prizes in recognition of their excellent achievements in 2018 in their respective universities.

My sincere gratitude to Dr. George and Susan Santoro, the family of the late Prof. Colin McCormick, and the Italian Club Cavour for their generous financial contribution and to Assisi Centre for providing us with such a convivial venue. On the same occasion we were delighted to present George and Susan Santoro with a special plaque and medal as an acknowledgement of their continuing generous financial support over the years as well as for their active participation at our functions. Congratulations and *Mille Grazie* George and Susan!

**Scholarships 2018:** Similarly, a sincere thanks to Mr. Eusebio and Mrs. Giovanna Marcocci, and to Mrs. Elsie

Valmorbida for their contribution of \$5,000-00 that supported the *Teacher Scholarships to Italy*. The aim of the scholarship is to give the successful applicant the opportunity to experience first-hand the language and culture in an accredited school and thereby enhance their teaching. The 2018 recipient was Jana Adzic. Her very positive feedback from such an experience makes us ever more determined to continue our efforts towards such awards. I am confident that this additional experience will be put to good use in the classroom. Well done Jana! In October, two more scholarships have been awarded for 2019. I wish Mrs. Maria Daniele and Ms. Patrizia Testa all the very best as they take up their study experience next year. My gratitude extends to Dr. John Lando, Bruna Pasqua, and Mary Marcuccio for their assistance with the task of selecting the two winners.

### **Poetry and Literary & Poster Competitions.**

Once again, this year our core competitions continued to thrive. The very talented secondary school students showed great enthusiasm in their presentations and continued to thrill their families with their achievements. I often have the pleasure to meet some people who recall having participated in such competitions during their younger days at school and nostalgically refer to their award as something they have always treasured. Several of the year 11 and 12 students accepted the invitation to recite their poem on Rete Italia. Thank you, Mary Marcuccio, for organizing this unique opportunity for the students to go to a radio studio, to be interviewed and recite.

Thank you to Ester Marcuccio and Celeste Centioli, who coordinated the 9 days of recitations and finals day and the presentation of awards ceremony. Thank you to Imogen Lazarus for her coordination of the Poster competition that saw primary school students produce wonderful art work. The presentation of prizes was enjoyable and highly successful with *La Befana* as the Guest of honour! I am grateful to these ladies for their strong organizational skills, and to Claudia McLean for her significant assistance. *Grazie Mille* to Mary Marcuccio for being always present and making sure that everything proceeds very smoothly.

### **Professoressa Patrizia Burley-Lombardi Presentation: The Influence of the English Language on the Italian Language.**

Thank you Patrizia for taking us through the history of the growing use of English words in our Italian vocabulary with the concomitant abandonment of Italian words and the new global meanings that can only be expressed by such "new words".

### **Lectura Dantis: *Dante dà i numeri*, presented by Professoressa Antonella Cavallini (The University of Melbourne)**

Thank you, Antonella, for bringing to our members an insight into the use of numerology that Dante brought into his writings of the *Divina Commedia*.

**Dr. John Lando** this year enlightened his audience with a comprehensive understanding of the life of the poet Aldo Palazzeschi and his poems. I understand the reason for

selecting a poem by Palazzeschi from time to time in the recitation competition. Thank you, John.

**The 123<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Dante Society was held at Toscana Social Club** Thank you to staff for providing us with such a convivial venue and a wonderful and *gustoso* lunch *Dantesco*! The number of participants increases each year!

**Settimana della Lingua Italiana nel Mondo:** Conference at The University of Melbourne, coordinated by Professoressa Anna Rita Tamponi, Director of Education, Italian Embassy Canberra. *L'Italiano sul Palcoscenico, La Rete sul Palcoscenico Globale – L'Italiano in Movimento.*

We commend Anna Rita Tamponi for the great success achieved in discussing and elaborating on the presence and the ways in which Italian is being taught throughout the world and in particular in Australia.

We are indebted to Professors John Hajek and Mathew Absalom from The University of Melbourne for their detailed presentation of data and use of theatre in the teaching of Italian respectively as well as to Professor Daniele Donati from Macerata who explained his approach to teaching poetry writing.

This conference included a brief interlude at CO.AS.IT, where we had the pleasure to welcome the recently appointed Italian Ambassador to Australia, Sua Eccellenza Francesca Tardioli. She showed a lot of interest in the work we are doing and promised that in due course she will be happy to honour us with her presence in our Dante office.

Thank you to the **Dante Giovani** representatives Imogen Lazarus, Nick Sgro-Traikovski, Celeste Centioli, Laura Campanaro and Brendan Musumeci for taking the Society into the future.

I must acknowledge the work of Nick for having been successful in obtaining our first ever grant from the Dante Society in Rome. Early next year a course will be conducted by Nick on *La Vita Nuova* di Dante Alighieri. Well done Nick and I wish you success in your presentation.

**La Divina Commedia in English:** 8- & 10-week courses on *Inferno, Purgatorio and Paradiso* by Dr. Simon West. I understand from the reports given to me by Mary Marcuccio that the courses this year have been well attended. Thank you, Simon, for using your expertise with those who prefer to study Dante in a language that they can better understand and thus helping them appreciate such fine literature.

**CO.AS.IT:** Farewell to Rhonda Barro for her interest and assistance towards the Society as President of CO.AS.IT. I congratulate the new President Professor Mauro Sandrin. Another change has come about with the Hon. Marco Fedi having been appointed the new CEO. He has replaced Giancarlo Martini-Piovano, a great friend of the Society for many years. We wish Giancarlo a very happy retirement. No doubt we will receive the same collaboration from Marco Fedi who has already expressed immense admiration for the work done by the Society.

Thank you to Dr. Pierluigi Trombetta, Consul General of Italy for Victoria and Tasmania, and to his wife Paola for their interest and support throughout the year.

Thanks to Dottoressa Laura Napolitano, Director of the Italian Cultural Institute for her support. We look forward to strengthening our links and collaborating on our mutual interests.

A special thanks to our Honorary Accountant Pat Rocca and his assistant Ms. Ha Vu who have been very generous with their time for many years.

Thank you to all our supporters, and in particular Fernando Cardinale – President of Casa d'Abruzzo Club in Epping and his wife Connie for their continuing support and participation in our activities.

I am sincerely grateful to my executive committee and co-opted members of 2019 for the work they have done with so much passion, enthusiasm and diligence.

Mary Marcuccio deserves a special thanks from all of us for her diligent and passionate attention to all matters pertaining to the Dante Alighieri Society. Her husband Angelo is always ready, willing and able to help us in all circumstances. Mary organized a viewing of the film/documentary *Pavarotti* at Cinema Nova on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November. It was an overwhelming success!

Last but not least I am immensely indebted to my wife Leanne for supporting me in all my endeavours and responsibilities with so much love and affection and without any complaints.

I wish all the membership and families a very happy and safe Christmas, a prosperous New Year and a very restful holiday. I look forward to a successful 2020.

**Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo.**

**Cav. Dr. Dominic Barbaro AM**  
President



*Annual General Meeting 2019; Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at CO.AS.IT*

*The Dante Alighieri Society wishes to thank the following for their ongoing collaboration—*



**CO.AS.IT**

**MUSEO ITALIANO**

*The Valmorbida Family*

*The Santoro family*

*Eusebio and Giovanna Marcocci*

*The McCormick Family*



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**Casa d'Abruzzo Club Epping**

**The Italian Club Cavour**



*Italian Consulate Melbourne*

## Contents

La Dante come colonna della lingua e cultura italiana.....	2
Giosuè Carducci e la Società Dante Alighieri.....	2
President's Report.....	3
The Dante Celebration of Excellence Ceremony 2019.....	6
Teacher Scholarship recipient 2018.....	7
Hoppers Crossing Secondary School Report.....	9
La Società Dante Alighieri ha ricordato Aldo Palazzeschi.....	10
Lectura Dantis 2019.....	10
Leonardo Reveald.....	11
Influenze, interferenze, contributi della lingua inglese nell'italiano corrente.....	12
Literary Competitions 2019.....	13
Poster Competition 2019.....	15
Omaggio ad Andrea Camilleri.....	16
PAVAROTTI: The voice, the man, the drama and the legend.....	16
Congratulations to Il Globo on 60 years!.....	17
123 <sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Lunch.....	18
Future events 2020.....	18
Vita Nuova	
Divine Comedy in English	
Giuliano Guareschi	
Conversation Support Classes	
Membership message.....	20

## Committee members of the Dante Alighieri Society Melbourne for 2020:

**President:** Dr. Dominic Barbaro

**Vice President:** Mrs. Mary Marcuccio

**Secretary:** Dr. Paolo Baracchi

**Treasurer:** Ms. Christina Siciliano

**Committee members:** Agata Bonfà Colosimo, Prof. John Hajek, Claudia McLean, Nicholas Sgro-Traikovski, Laura Campanaro, Gabriella Gommersall-Hubbard, Adriana Congiu.

**Co-opted Members:** Tania Barbatì, Ester Marcuccio, Imogen Lazarus.

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## The Dante Celebration of Excellence Ceremony 2019

This year's activities began with the Society's annual Celebration of Excellence Ceremony on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at the Assisi Centre for the Aged, Rosanna. A very proud group of parents and friends were invited to attend the ceremony and all present witnessed the students receive their award and give thanks to their sponsors and lecturers. These awards are given every year to encourage students to continue their pursuit of excellence and to continue the study of Italian in order to enrich their future careers. Many of the recipients spoke about their current studies and how Italian will be useful to them in their chosen futures. These prizes recognise achievements from studies of Italian conducted in 2018.

### Students from The University of Melbourne receiving The Dr. Soccorso Santoro Prize

1st Year – Michael Donato and Adrian Viglietti  
2nd Year – Adrian Limone  
3rd Year – Paul Woodward

### Students from Monash University receiving The Prof. Colin & Mrs. Josephine McCormick Prize

Beginners level – Aeeman Ayobi  
Intermediate level – Holly Alexandra Davies  
Proficient/Advanced Level – Jeremy Yik Tai

### Students from Swinburne University of Technology receiving The Italian Club Cavour Prize

1st Year – Elisa Bova and Juan Fernando Monge  
Simmonds  
2nd Year – Ellen Inglese

### Students from La Trobe University receiving The Dante Alighieri Society (President's Prize)

1st Year – Gaston Gianfreda  
2nd Year – Adriana Giannettoni  
3rd Year – Jose Carlos Bonaccorso



## La Dante Alighieri celebra studenti e insegnanti di italiano

La Società Dante Alighieri di Melbourne ha iniziato le attività del 2019 incoraggiando i giovani a continuare a studiare la lingua italiana. Domenica 3 marzo, presso l'Assisi Centre di Rosanna, si è svolta la cerimonia della presentazione dei premi e la consegna di una borsa di studio ad un'insegnante di italiano per un soggiorno di completa immersione linguistica e culturale in Italia. Jana Adzic è stata scelta per la borsa di studio grazie alla generosità di Eusebio e Giovanna Marcocci e di Elsie Valmorbida.

Studenti, famigliari, insegnanti, amici, soci della Società e la direttrice dell'Istituto Italiano di Cultura, Laura Napolitano, sono intervenuti all'evento. Congratulandosi con gli studenti e i loro insegnanti, il presidente della Dante Dominic Barbaro ha invitato i presenti a continuare gli studi con lo stesso entusiasmo e impegno e ha ringraziato calorosamente Eusebio e Giovanna Marcocci, Elsie Valmorbida, George e Susan Santoro, la famiglia McCormick, l'Italian Club Cavour rappresentato dal presidente Sergio Fazio e dal segretario Anthony Iacovino, per il loro prezioso contributo e supporto. Da parte loro gli studenti hanno espresso gratitudine verso la Dante che si adopera con impegno nella promozione della lingua e cultura italiana e verso gli sponsors per il loro contributo.



*Dr. George and Mrs. Susan Santoro receiving an honorary medal  
for their longstanding support of the Dante*

A conclusione della presentazione dei premi il presidente Barbaro ha consegnato al Dr. George Santoro e a sua moglie Susan la medaglia della Dante e l'onorificenza di soci a vita per il loro sostegno alla Dante Alighieri nel corso degli anni. Il Dr. Santoro ha ricordato suo padre Dr. Soccorso Santoro, presidente della Dante negli anni '30 e ha ricordato alcuni aneddoti della storia della Società fra calorosi applausi e ringraziamenti alla vicepresidente Mary Marcuccio per l'organizzazione dell'evento.

**Gabriella Gommersall-Hubbard**

## Teacher Scholarship recipient 2018

Congratulations to Jana Adzic of Copperfield Secondary College, Sydenham, who received a scholarship from Mr. and Mrs. Marcocci and Mrs. Valmorbida to broaden her Italian experience in Italy (pictured below).



On the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019, I set off from Melbourne for Rome, where I spent a single day re-visiting sights I had not seen in years. I walked familiar streets, stopping to marvel at the Colosseum and Fontana di Trevi, before sitting down to dinner. A train ride the following morning brought me to Florence. After meeting my host and settling into my room, I gratefully accepted the offer of a tour and set out by Vespa to see the city. To this day, that first afternoon at Piazzale Michelangelo overlooking the city remains my fondest memory of the trip, while Florence remains my favourite city in Italy.

The following day I awoke early and set out for my first day of classes at Scuola Leonardo da Vinci. As awe-inspiring as the view from San Miniato al Monte had been the night before, the simple act of walking through the city in the rain became a treasured daily ritual that included watching its inhabitants set to work, purchasing a *ciambella* from what would become my favourite bakery, and never tiring of the view of the Duomo as I strolled through the piazza towards school. With an entry corridor to rival Hogwarts, I was greeted warmly by teachers amidst a swarm of new students. Within minutes I was seated with an admission test, and an altogether unfamiliar feeling – being on the other side of a written grammar test. With pride (and relief) I received 90% and was promptly ushered to the top class at the level of C1. The class was a melting pot of backgrounds and experience levels. Our teacher included us in determining content insofar as grammar was concerned, asking students what areas they felt required further consolidation. I became known in class as *La Maga della Grammatica*, and enjoyed many lively debates with our instructors regarding use of tenses and translation.

There are so many reasons Florence has become my favourite city in the world, but at the top of the list is the sheer volume of cultural experiences available. Following are a few highlights.

### **Church of Santa Croce**

In addition to the beauty of its interior, one cannot help but be awed to know that beside you (or rather, underneath you) lie the greatest minds of the Renaissance. From Galileo and Macchiavelli, to Foscolo and Michelangelo. The church also houses the empty tomb of Florence's beloved son, Dante Alighieri.

### **Art**

There's a reason Michelangelo's *David* is not kept in the first room upon entry to Florence's Galleria dell'Accademia. He quite literally stops you in your tracks. In addition to the wholly unexpected enormity, closer inspection reveals a lifelike level of detail that is captivating in its authenticity. Standing before this colossal evidence of Michelangelo's genius inspired in me more awe than the Colosseum itself. But Florence's commitment to artists and their art extends far beyond the well-known pieces to be found in the Uffizi and other galleries. Street art adorns city walls, while outdoor markets abound with original paintings and sketches for sale or inspection. The city also welcomes international artists, with exhibitions running frequently and well attended by citizens and tourists alike.

### **La Divina Commedia**

To my absolute delight, Andrea Ortis' stage show spectacular opera musical adaptation of Dante's *Divina Commedia* was touring Italy for the first time and performed in Florence at the historical Teatro Verdi. Built in the 1880s, I could not have imagined a more perfect setting in which to view Dante's epic tale come to life. I must say I was dubious as to how it could be adequately adapted to the stage in such a relatively short timeframe, but the final result was, well, one of the best experiences of my life. The entire theatre was on their feet, and for the most part in tears, as lost souls quite literally walked through the rows of seats towards the stage in the final act as they ascended to Paradise. Dante reunion with Beatrice left the audience humbled by the poet's final message – that it is love not logic that leads all souls to transcend hell and reach heaven.

### **Brunelleschi's Dome**

Florence's Duomo was not the first building I climbed in Italy; I actually left this looming icon until the very end of my trip. This proved the right choice, because the terror I experienced at the half way mark (that is, standing on that precarious ledge around the centre of the Dome with nothing but a piece of perspex between myself and death) swore me off continually facing my fear of heights via endless staircases.

Reaching the top, however, is nothing short of miraculous, with Brunelleschi's masterpiece of architecture providing the best view of the city next to Piazzale Michelangelo.

And last but not least, one simply does not move to Florence and support any Serie A team other than *Florentina*. For a fan who has spent a life time having to wake up at all hours to watch decent football, home games on Sundays at *Stadio Artemio Franchi* definitely left me with *un cuore viola*.

Living in Florence also put me in easy reach of myriad noteworthy Italian cities and associated cultural experiences. Following are the cities and corresponding adventures that left an imprint on my heart.

### **Pisa**

Comments from classmates during our daily discussions left me wholly unprepared for the wonder that was the day I spent in Pisa. Consensus had been that beyond the tower there was very little worth seeing. I strongly disagree! One of the things I love most about Italy is the country's persevering passion for books. Bookstores abound in major cities, are *always* busy, and come complete with armchairs scattered for your comfort so that one has the option of sitting down and relaxing to read one of the innumerable titles available. By the same token, my first impression of Pisa was that of an outdoor secondhand book market set up under the porticoes on the banks of the river. Walking along the Arno evokes a similar sense to that of the corresponding strip of Florence, but is somehow cleaner and more peaceful, while the tower houses on either side add further charm. I had set out that day with a walking route mapped out. However, upon reaching the piazza housing *Scuola Normale Superiore*, I got completely lost on my way to the Leaning Tower. Somehow this managed to make the experience of seeing it for the first time even more miraculous, as I looked up from my map in frustration to see it looming overhead. Climbing it was both terrifying, and so much fun!

### **Ravenna**

My trip would not have been possible without the support of La Società Dante Alighieri di Melbourne. For this reason, as well as an abiding fascination with the Father of the Italian Language, I took it upon myself to follow in the poet's footsteps wherever possible. My journey began in Florence, where the poet was born. I visited the house in which he once lived and enjoyed guided tours, marveling whenever I found myself (quite literally) standing in places Dante had worked or spoken to the public in his role as Prior of Florence. In Venice, I discussed the use of the city's shipyard as a simile to evoke the restlessness of sinners in *Inferno*. In Bologna I stood beneath the twin

towers that inspired evil giants and compared the city's dialect (which Dante described as 'noble') to that of Florence (which he considered the best). However, it is a well-known fact that Dante's political exploits and his decision to banish several of his rivals ultimately led to his own exile. And while *Santa Croce* boasts a grandiose tombstone in tribute to the city's lost son, the reality remains that Dante Alighieri was never to return to Florence, neither in life nor death. Instead, the controversial genius remains entombed in Ravenna, the city to which he fled upon exile in 1302, and the final stop on my Dante-driven expedition. *La Tomba di Dante* lies at the end of a cobblestone street, aptly named Via Dante Alighieri. Signs proclaim it *La Zona Dantesca*, as well as a *Zona del Silenzio*, adding to the reverence with which one approaches the resting place of one of the most important figures in Italian history. At the end of the street lies a monument to the poet, perpetually lit by a lamp fueled by Tuscan olive oil and paid for by the city of Florence as penance for Dante's exile. While the Florentines tried on several occasions to have the poet's bones returned after his death, the monks of Ravenna steadfastly refused, at one point going so far as to hide the sarcophagus from the Tuscan delegation sent by the Medici family to retrieve them. Today they can be found under a simple mound in the nearby garden.



To conclude, I returned from my stay in Florence with a renewed sense of wonder for Italian culture, a

revived appreciation for the language, and a consistent commitment to share my experiences with my students and the world in hopes of inspiring the same passion for learning that has driven me my entire life. The scholarship I received, and its subsequent rewards, renders me living proof of the abundance of opportunities available to those who study Italian.

**Jana Adzic**



## News from Cyvonne Scarica Scholarship Recipient of 2017 Keeping connections with Italy



Two teacher chaperones and 11 students were all fortunate enough to visit Italy for 3 weeks at the end of term 3. The delegation (students) landed in Rome on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September and had 3 amazing sun-filled days of ancient ruins, Colosseum selfies and coins in the Trevi Fountain. They popped down to Pompeii to see the city buried by Mount Vesuvius and to try some authentic Neapolitan pizza.



On the sixth day, they journeyed on a train for 3 hours to Florence. In the morning the delegation headed to the ABC language school to participate in some intensive Italian language classes and in the afternoons headed out to see the beautiful Renaissance city and the many statues of David. The delegation was fortunate enough join a tour around Tuscany and visit the countryside towns of Siena, San Gimignano and the famous Pisa.



Then the day finally came for them to meet their host families in Forlì. They spent a day out with their families at the beach, hiking in the hills and at the picturesque enclave of San Marino. On Monday, they headed to Liceo Scientifico Statale Fulcieri Paulucci Di Calboli where they were fully-immersed as Italian students. They presented to the students in Italian and then in English, describing and comparing Australia, our education system and our College.



The students observed classes and participated in those of science and P.E. In the afternoons, they headed out with their hosting brothers and sisters to Forlì town-centre, Ravenna, Urbino and Bologna. After a teary good-bye and a 4 hour bus-ride, the delegation arrived at its final destination - the city on water – Venice, where they enjoyed three days of relaxing boat rides on the canals, plates of pasta and pizza, markets, more sun and a day trip to Milan to see the famous Duomo and Da Vinci's Last Supper.

It was not until the last day, island hopping around the glass-blowing island of Murano and the colourful Burano that it rained for the first time. The next day was departure day, and, with suitcases and stomachs full, the delegation returned to Melbourne happy to see family and friends again but at the same time sad to leave new friends and adopted families behind in Italy. The teacher chaperones would like to thank the students of the delegation for an amazing 3 weeks.

The students represented the College with the highest standards, undertook hours of walking in the hot sun and pushed themselves to speak Italian and immerse themselves fully. The students of the delegation and their families would like to thank the teachers and staff at Hoppers Crossing Secondary College for their ongoing support prior, during and after their trip.

We would also like to thank all of the students, hosting families and staff at Liceo Scientifico in Forlì for their warm hospitality and making us feel a part of their families and community. You have provided us with experiences and friendships we will have for the rest of our lives and we look forward to returning the favour when you visit in 2019.

**Ms. Cyvonne Scarica**  
Italian Teacher and 2018 Italian Staff Delegate



*Mary Marcuccio visiting Hoppers Crossing before the students' departures.*

**La Società Dante Alighieri ha ricordato Aldo Palazzeschi, poeta dall'acuto senso dell'humour e dalla vocazione al riso.**

La sera di lunedì 25 marzo, la "Dante" di Melbourne ha tenuto un incontro culturale sulla poesia di Aldo Palazzeschi presentato dal professore John Lando. Chi ha frequentato le scuole in Italia avrà sicuramente imparato alcune delle sue poesie più interessanti e conosciute – per esempio Rio Bo e La Fontana Malata – che creano situazioni umoristiche con sottofondo fra ironia malinconica, umorismo bizzarro e destrutturazione linguistica.

Inizialmente il poeta firmò le sue opere col suo vero nome Aldo Pietro Vincenzo Giurlani, e dal 1905 adottò come pseudonimo il cognome della nonna materna, appunto Palazzeschi. Il suo senso dell'umorismo si rivela fin dall'inizio quando pubblicò il primo libro di poesie, *I cavalli bianchi*, per un editore immaginario, Cesare Blanc (che in realtà era il nome del suo gatto) con una sede immaginaria a Firenze.

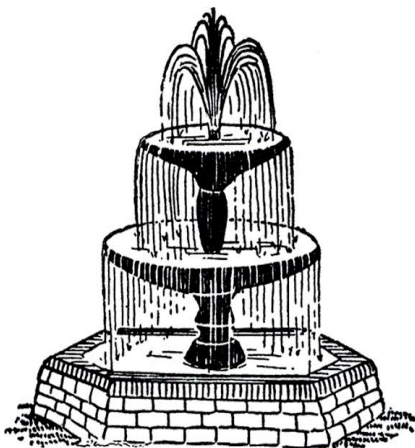
Questo incontro è stato il primo del calendario di attività di quest'anno della Società di Melbourne.

È con grande piacere che la Società Dante Alighieri ha organizzato questa manifestazione culturale in collaborazione con il professore John Lando che è stato per 30 anni docente di italianistica all'Università Cattolica (ACU). John è anche autore di antologie di poesie che sono usate da insegnanti nell'insegnamento dell'italiano. Le sue poesie sono anche spesso scelte e recitate dagli studenti nei concorsi organizzati annualmente dalla Società Dante Alighieri di Melbourne.

**Claudia McLean**

**La fontana Malata**  
Aldo Palazzeschi

*"...Mia povera fontana,  
il male che hai  
il cuore  
mi preme.  
Si tace,  
non getta  
più nulla.  
Si tace,  
non s'ode  
romore  
di sorta  
che forse...  
che forse  
sia morta?"*



**Lectura Dantis 2019**

**Dante dà i numeri: la numerologia nella Divina Commedia**



Dante non ha mai nascosto il suo amore per i misteri, basti ricordare la famosissima terzina del IX Canto dell'Inferno:

*"O voi ch'avete li 'intelletti sani  
mirate la dottrina che s'asconde  
sotto 'l velame de li versi strani."*

Dante, dunque, fine conoscitore in ambito scientifico e filosofico, scelse, non casualmente, di ricorrere ad alcuni numeri per dare alla Divina Commedia simmetria ed equilibrio, in modo simbolico e allegorico.

A spiegarci l'enigma numerologico della Divina Commedia è stata la professoressa Antonella Cavallini, docente d'italiano all'Università di Melbourne, che mercoledì 14 agosto ha catturato l'attenzione del pubblico con un'interessantissima presentazione. Ai tempi di Dante, la numerologia era una scienza seria perché considerata la chiave d'accesso per capire l'armonia del cosmo, e siccome le cifre hanno un ruolo importante nella Bibbia, i padri della Chiesa se ne sono sempre occupati. Nel Medioevo il popolo analfabeta poteva accedere a ciò che era sacro attraverso i numeri e la simbologia, usati nell'architettura delle cattedrali che erano veri libri aperti.

In più, alla fine del Medioevo, la matematica diventò una passione perché iniziarono i commerci e dunque la necessità di far di conto. Ma veniamo alla Divina Commedia la cui struttura matematica rispecchia una trama simbolica. I numeri più comuni nell'opera del Sommo Poeta sono 1, 3, 7, 9 e 10.

Il numero 1 rappresenta la perfezione, il 3 richiama sia la Trinità che i regni della Commedia (Inferno, Purgatorio e Paradiso). Le donne che aiutano Dante

sono 3, cioè la Vergine Maria, Santa Lucia e Beatrice. Il 3 può anche essere un numero negativo se si pensa che gli animali che Dante incontra nella selva, la lupa, la lonza e il leone sono appunto 3. Cerbero nel Canto VI dell'Inferno, è un cane a 3 teste, fiero, crudele e mostruoso. Lucifero ha 3 bocche come pure 3 sono i fiumi infernali.



Il 7 rappresenta sia il dubbio e la menzogna che la perfezione delle attività umane. 7 sono i giorni del viaggio di Dante e Dio impiegò 7 giorni a creare l'universo.

Il 9 è considerato un numero sacro. Nell'Inferno ci sono 9 Malebolgie. Dante incontra Beatrice per la prima volta a 9 anni. Il nome della donna in latino è Beatrix le cui due lettere finali indicano nuovamente il numero 9.

Infine, il numero 10 su cui si formano tutti i numeri; i comandamenti di Dio sono 10 e questo numero rappresenta anche il simbolo della conoscenza. La decima lettera dell'alfabeto è la L ed è la prima con cui iniziano nomi lonza, lupa e leone, le tre fiere dell'Inferno.

Un altro importante numero è il 6 che in ognuna delle Cantiche indica un argomento politico.

La professoressa Cavallini ha concluso dicendo che la Divina Commedia non smette mai di stupirci per la sua attualità e aspetti enigmatici.



**Claudia McLean**

## Leonardo Revealed: What you might not know about Leonardo



This year marks the 500-year anniversary of the death of Leonardo da Vinci. While his great achievements are universally recognized, there are many things about him that are less widely known. This short article describes some aspects of his life that maybe surprising. The source of most of this information is Walter Isaacson's carefully researched and very readable *Leonardo Da Vinci, The Biography* (Simon and Schuster, 2017).

### **What was he like?**

Leonardo had almost no formal schooling and was self-taught. He was a bit unconventional and a rebel, but Florence was comfortable with such people in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century. Did you know that he was illegitimate (luckily, otherwise he would have been expected to become a notary like his father), gay, fashionable (he liked to wear rose coloured tunics that reached only to the knee), vegetarian, left handed (that is why he drew and wrote with his mirror script), easily distracted (that is why he often never finished projects) and at times heretical? He wrote 'to do lists' but they were not at all like ours. Some of the items that appeared on his included: draw Milan, observe the goose's foot, answer the question as to why the sky is blue, describe the tongue of a woodpecker, go every Saturday to the bath house where you will see naked men.

### **How did others see him?**

According to his contemporaries, he was a man of eye-catching beauty and grace, a charming conversationalist, a lover of nature, renowned for being sweet and gentle to both people and animals, but sometimes darkly troubled. There are few drawings of Leonardo, which are mainly of him as old man, but he was described by people who knew him as having glowing curls, a muscular build, remarkable physical strength, and elegance of bearing,

## Influenze, interferenze, contributi della lingua inglese nell'italiano corrente conferenza di Patrizia Burley-Lombardi

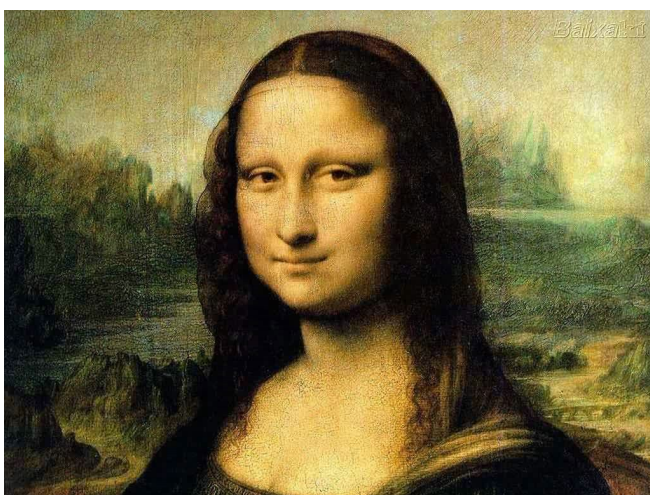
### How did he see himself? (Oh, I can paint).

In a letter to the ruler of Milan, at the age of 30 and after a moderately successful career as a painter in Firenze, he listed the reasons he should be given a job. In the first ten paragraphs he emphasized his engineering skills. It wasn't until the last paragraph, that he mentioned that he was also an artist (although a particularly skilled one).

### How did he create the two most famous paintings in history, The Last Supper and The Mona Lisa?



His scientific investigations informed his art. His studies of light and optics allowed him to master the use of shading and perspective to transform objects painted on a two-dimensional surface, so they appeared three-dimensional. Using his knowledge of optics, he showed how light rays strike the retina of the eye. He used this to create the illusions of changing visual perspective in The Last Supper. His dissections of cadavers revealed the muscles of the lips and provided insights into how to paint the world's most memorable smile.



Brian Malone

La proliferazione di vocaboli ed espressioni inglesi all'interno della lingua italiana è davvero inarrestabile? Alcuni termini sono entrati a far parte del linguaggio di ogni giorno come ad esempio "fare shopping" o passare un buon "weekend". Però con il passar del tempo nessuno è più celibe o nubile, ma "single", per non parlare dell'informatica con i social media, il web e così via.

Questo è stato il tema discusso durante un incontro organizzato dalla Società Dante Alighieri in collaborazione con la professoressa Patrizia Burley-Lombardi che nel 2018, appena arrivata in Italia per un periodo di vacanze e studio, aprendo un giornale è rimasta molto sorpresa.

Ha infatti notato, con una certa costernazione, che la lingua a maggio del 2018 suonava diversa da quella dell'ottobre del 2017. La curiosità l'ha spinto ad esplorare la situazione. Dalla sua piccola ricerca ha imparato che la sua non era soltanto una vaga impressione, bensì un fenomeno ben radicato, con le sue regole e che sembra non si possa frenare.

L'incontro si è tenuto mercoledì 22 maggio e la Professoressa Burley-Lombardi ha saputo illustrare in modo divertente e spiritoso il desiderio di tanti italiani di abbandonare le parole italiane per sostituirle a volte in modo sbagliato con le espressioni inglesi che sempre più si trovano nei discorsi, modi di dire, giornali e pubblicità televisiva.

Claudia McLean

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## Literary Competitions 2019

### Recitation Competition

**17<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> June:** 9 days of competition held at The Business & Economics Building – The University of Melbourne

**67 Participating Schools** for Recitation competition  
**2,891 students** recited poetry with **each day 8-10 adjudicators** in attendance and **10-12 ushers** from universities across Melbourne who assisted

**Finals Day 18<sup>th</sup> July**

**262 students returned** to recite again for 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> placing

All participants received a certificate or placing prize



### Original Poetry Competition Yrs 7-12

**118 students** participated

**24 student prize winners**

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> prize placing, or certificates given to all participants.

### Discorso in Lingua Italiana (Essay writing) Yrs 11-12

Entries received from **55 students**

**16 students returned as Finalists**

All students receive prizes and certificates

### Examples of Original Student Work

*Year 12, Julien Alesi*

*Lavalla Catholic College*

*Discorso; Individual, Italian-Australian*

#### Leonardo Da Vinci

Cinquecento anni fa, c'era un uomo, che si chiamava Leonardo da Vinci. Oggi, lo conosciamo come uno dei più grandi uomini del nostro tempo. Era un inventore, scienziato, artista, ingegnere, architetto e indubbiamente un genio! Ma lo sapete già. Oggi, non parlerò della vita di Leonardo da Vinci, probabilmente l'avete già sentito. Parlerò di qualcosa che forse non sapete. Sì, Da Vinci ha inventato molte cose uniche, molti anni fa, ma la ragione per cui è ricordato da noi, e per l'impatto che le sue invenzioni hanno avuto sulle nostre vite. In vita, Da Vinci, anche se ha documentato la maggior parte del suo lavoro, non poteva condividere le sue scoperte con gli accademici del tempo perché non parlava latino. Ma grazie alle scoperte del suo lavoro, attraverso immagini e documenti, ha potuto dividerlo con noi e il suo lavoro continua ad ispirarci nella nostra vita, dalle cose semplici a quelle più complesse.

Per esempio, chi usa le forbici? Tutti oggi, spero! Se non usate le forbici, state ancora vivendo nell'età della pietra... più vecchia di Leonardo! Oggi usiamo le forbici per tante cose, che sia tagliare la carta o i capelli, le forbici sono usate da noi per il loro uso funzionale e semplice. E questo è per merito di Leonardo; ha progettato immagini dettagliate di forbici che hanno contribuito al disegno di forbici che usiamo oggi!

Questa è una invenzione semplice ma Da Vinci è famoso per i suoi disegni e studi complessi. Uno degli studi più complessi è il suo studio dell'anatomia umana. Da giovane, Da Vinci era interessato all'anatomia umana, e ha sezionato circa trenta cadaveri per osservare e studiare il corpo. Leonardo

l'ha fatto perchè voleva disegnare il corpo di un umano con proporzioni corrette e con lo scheletro e i muscoli. Nel farlo, ha capito come il corpo funziona ed è strutturato, e ha scritto tutte le sue scoperte nei suoi diari. Alla fine ha disegnato "L'uomo Vitruviano", raffigurante le proporzioni perfette e la struttura geometrica di un uomo. Questo ha aiutato i dottori a capire il corpo e alcune strutture scheletriche e muscolari. Su questo hanno basato procedure e interventi chirurgici. Il mondo non avrebbe capito come il corpo funziona e i dottori non sarebbero in grado di eseguire procedure mediche senza questo studio. Importantissimo il suo ultimo studio, quello del cuore, dove ha scoperto l'intasamento delle arterie e ha modellato il cuore, osservando le valvole, e questo ha aiutato i medici moderni a capire la sua funzione.

Pero`, l'area di studio preferita di Leonardo Da Vinci, era l'ingegneria, specialmente il volo. Leonardo pensava che gli umani potessero volare. Ha osservato gli uccelli, e registrato le loro strutture, gli schemi di volo e i loro movimenti. Alla fine, pensava che gli umani potessero volare, con ali simili agli uccelli. Ha organizzato tutta la sua ricerca e disegni nei codici, i diari organizzati per argomento, e ha scritto un codice sul volo, che ha chiamato "Il

Codice sul volo degli uccelli." In questo codice, ha progettato tutti i disegni di ali, il primo paracadute, gli studi sulla gravità e l'aria, e le sue macchine volanti. La macchina più conosciuta, e` l'ornitottero, una macchina con le ali che sono alimentate manualmente. Mentre tutte le persone all'epoca di Da Vinci non hanno creduto in questa macchina, alla fine ha funzionato! E ha dimostrato di essere la base per la creazione delle ali degli aeroplani moderni. Gli studi di Da Vinci hanno aiutato gli ingegneri moderni a capire il volo e la resistenza dell'aria, per costruire l'aeroplano perfetto.

In conclusione, le invenzioni e gli studi di Da Vinci hanno dimostrato non solo che Leonardo era un genio, ma che era avanti rispetto ai suoi tempi, e i suoi disegni e documenti sono stati usati per creare l'architettura moderna, macchinari moderni e l'odierna medicina; senza di lui, non saremmo in grado di volare... Dare il suo nome a una tartaruga ninja era il minimo che potessimo fare per lui!



Questa poesia è dedicata a Leonardo da Vinci.

### La Tela

Era seduto in alto, gli occhi concentrati,  
Il suo pennello soppesava tra le dita.  
Con ogni respiro che faceva, alcuni colori gocciolavano  
per terra,  
Creando lentamente un'immagine, molto più bella di  
quanto avrebbe mai potuto creare.  
Turbini di rosso, verde, bianco, misti insieme,  
Creando qualcosa di nuovo, qualcosa di bello.  
Lui abbassò lo sguardo dalla sua tela bianca, gli occhi  
stanchi,  
Sperando in un'intensa ispirazione.  
Il dipinto brillava nei suoi occhi, i colori invadevano i  
suoi pensieri.  
Lui sorrise.  
La Terra era la sua tela.

### Recitation of poem or original poem at Rete Italia 26<sup>th</sup> September

Somewhat nervous to be in a radio studio and being interviewed in Italian, these courageous students did their families and schools very proud for their excellent effort. They answered questions and then recited their chosen poem or their written poem. This segment went to air on Friday morning 25<sup>th</sup> October during the *Settimana della Lingua Italiana nel Mondo*. Congratulations to Giuliana Lombardi and Isabella Trincherà from Ave Maria College, Rohan Symonds and Julien Alessi from Lavalla Catholic College and Mary Fulton from Our Lady of Sion College.



**Poster Competition 2019**  
**Topic: MANGIARE SANO**

Students learning Italian in Victorian primary and language schools are tasked to create an A3 poster on the year's chosen theme. Student work is judged by an experienced panel of teachers, which encourages student creativity and interdisciplinary learning.

In 2019, the poster competition enjoyed another successful year. With 877 entries from 18 day schools and afterschool programs, the Dante office was awash with glitter, buttons and hundreds of different interpretations of this year's topic: healthy eating.

Of the 877 entries, 39 students received first, second and third prizes for the excellent work they had created. This year also saw the introduction of the Teacher's Choice award. Each school was invited to nominate one student who had demonstrated a strong work ethic and positive attitude towards the completion of their poster and to Languages lessons more generally. This award was intended to acknowledge those students whose commitment to languages learning and to their work in Italian classes has been outstanding. All students entered in the Teacher's Choice section received a certificate and trophy, awarded at the Presentation Ceremony. It was the Society's pleasure to acknowledge 14 students for their exemplary efforts in their studies.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the University of Melbourne for their support of the competition and also warmly thank the Casa d'Abruzzo Club Epping for their sponsorship of our endeavours. The biggest thank you of all, however, goes to the teachers and students who continue to support the competition – we look forward to seeing your work again next year! To add to the special presentation of prizes, the children and their families were treated to a surprise visit from *La Befana*. A fantastic finale to a pleasant ceremony.

**Examples of student work**



*Trophies and Books received by the students on the day, donated by the Casa d'Abruzzo Club Epping*



*Fernando Cardinale and Dominic Barbaro presenting students the Teacher's Choice Award*

**Ms. Imogen Lazarus**  
 Poetry Competition Coordinator

## Omaggio ad Andrea Camilleri



Era bello fino a qualche tempo fa, accendendo il televisore per guardare i programmi dall'Italia, avere la piacevole sorpresa di vedere il viso di uno scrittore amato da tanti: Andrea Camilleri.

Con la sua parlata morbida e lenta, ci raccontava aneddoti della sua vita, sempre interessanti.

Nato a Porto Empedocle in provincia di Agrigento, dopo gli anni di spostamenti dovuti alla guerra, vive per molti anni a Roma, dove inizia l'università iscrivendosi alla Facoltà di Lettere, senza però terminarla.

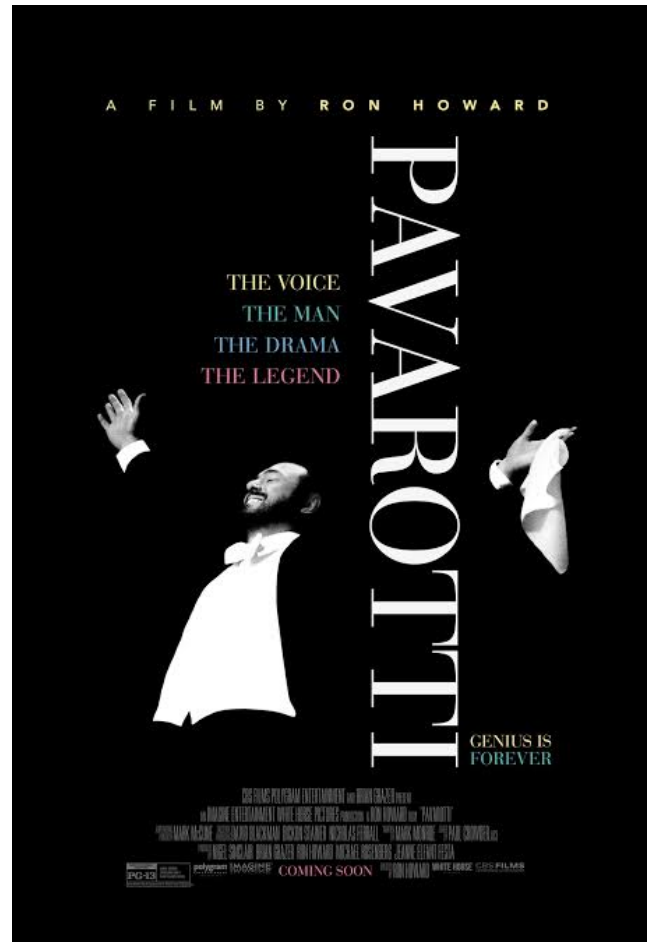
Si iscrive al Partito Comunista e comincia a scrivere e a pubblicare racconti e poesie. Dal 1948 al 1950 studia regia all'Accademia d'Arte Drammatica Silvio D'Amico. Viene assunto al Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia come insegnante, ma il suo grande, immenso successo ha inizio nel 1994 con l'arrivo del Commissario Montalbano. Nell'aprile del 2003 in onore a Camilleri, il comune di Porto Empedocle prende come secondo nome "Vigata" luogo che tutti coloro che seguono le vicende del Commissario Montalbano, conoscono nei minimi particolari.

Andrea Camilleri si è spento il 17 luglio 2019 dopo aver pubblicato più di 100 libri, romanzi, opere teatrali, poesie e dopo aver inventato un linguaggio che unisce l'italiano al siciliano comprensibile a tutti. Nel 2003 il Presidente della Repubblica ha insignito Camilleri dell'Orifienza di Grande Ufficiale dell'Ordine al merito della Repubblica Italiana.

**Laura Tresoldi**



## PAVAROTTI: The voice, the man, the drama and the legend



On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November, more than 70 of our members, friends and supporters viewed this new blockbuster movie as a group at Cinema Nova in Carlton. Thank-you to Mary Marcuccio for organising the successful group outing.

Pavarotti: The voice, the man, the drama, the legend is an in-depth story of Pavarotti – an iconic performer. This is a must-see cinema experience; the film is both entertaining and emotional, and a celebration of Pavarotti's life and voice. This is the story of Pavarotti's meteoric rise from a baker's son to a global icon. This high-quality film is from one of Hollywood's greats, two-time Academy Award winner Ron Howard. The documentary covers the highs and lows of Pavarotti's personal life, as well as his performing career, and gives unique and rare glimpses of the man behind the legend.

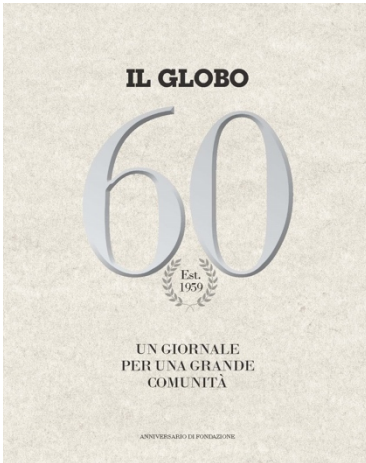
With the upcoming Christmas break, we recommend that you watch this biopic with your family and friends. This sure to be classic movie features never-before-seen footage, concert performances and intimate interviews with the one and only Luciano Pavarotti, a true Italian icon.



## Congratulations to *Il Globo* on 60 years!

Thank-you to *Il Globo* for their commitment to the Italian community in Australia. Below we include an article published in *Il Globo* on November 4<sup>th</sup>, recounting the publication's 60 years and how they look to the future in the changing face of media.

### Celebrating both the past and future: '*Il Globo*' turns 60



On Wednesday, November 4, 1959, the very first edition of *Il Globo* was published, as Australia's new weekly newspaper for Italians. The results of that year's Melbourne Cup, won by MacDougal, were featured in the bottom left-hand corner of the front page, while the headlines spoke of a meeting of the "Greats"

and the Casa d'Italia in Melbourne.

The first edition was made up of eight pages, all of which were already packed with advertisements and news from Italy, Australia and the world, as well as – most importantly – news relating to the Italian community in Australia.

We can only imagine the joy, satisfaction and pride experienced by the founders, Ubaldo Larobina and Tarcisio Valmorbida, as they held that first edition in their hands. Not to mention the pride of the early collaborators, journalists and typographers who had worked on the edition and of course, those Italians who leafed through its pages for the very first time.

This birthday is an important one, and one which we have decided to share with our readers by preparing a special insert to be published in this Thursday's edition of *Il Globo*. The insert will recount the paper's history and re-publish many of its early pages, exploring the news and events of the past 60 years.

*Il Globo's* long journey will be briefly covered – a journey that began on Sydney Road in Brunswick and evolved alongside the Italian community in Australia, whose members have always been by our side.

The insert will also cover some of the most important moments experienced by the community over the years, including battles, disappointments and successes.

We have tried to not only retrace events, but understand the significance of them for the readers of that time.

By carefully examining pages from the past, we were able to reflect on 60 years of ideas, news, comments, faces and stories, and appreciate the generosity, affection, pride, tenacity and extraordinary capacity of our community. It has been a real journey through time which, even now, remains incomplete.

Some topics have been left untouched.

There is always the next edition to prepare, the next interview to carry out, or a new initiative to work on. After 60 years, we are fortunate enough and eager to look towards the future and the many things that can still be done.

In 2006, when then director general of the Italian Media Corporation, Ubaldo Larobina, and the administration board of *Il Globo* entrusted me with the position of managing editor, I knew that it was a great honour, but also a great responsibility.

I took over from none other than the founder, Mr Larobina, and editor, Nino Randazzo – both formidable people.

They had built a strong foundation which allowed me to rise to the challenge, and to continue to guide the paper through a period of profound transformation which has been felt by the media industry in general.

Thanks to the strong DNA of *Il Globo*, and to the community which is of utmost importance, as well as the quality of those who have worked within our newsroom, we have gradually evolved as a paper.

*Il Globo* does not wish to simply recount the news, but to explain it while reporting on the community's activities and enriching its events with the profiles of various personalities, all of whom are important and relevant and protagonists of our compelling history.

It's a long history which has been separated into chapters; *Il Globo* was first published as a weekly paper and as it garnered support, it was then published two, three and even five times a week.

This schedule lasted for almost 12 years before the necessary readjustments were made to return to the bi-weekly newspaper which we know today.

*Il Globo* seeks to offer readers as much information as possible, while staying true to its values and not giving in to sensationalism.

It's a difficult task, especially in this period of profound change within the media industry, in which it has been necessary to finely calibrate the product while avoiding the evident risks that arise in a world that is abundant with unregulated information.

In these first 60 years of activity, *Il Globo* has always sought to focus on the facts and not prioritise opinions.

And it will continue to do so, with the same attention to detail and commitment as always, while confronting all the difficulties that exist in a world of continual news which is published with more ease than ever.

For this reason, *Il Globo* always strives to carve out extra space for explanations and in-depth research, in the hope of offering our readers something more than what can be found on a mobile phone.

Today we've hit 60 years and there's still so much to do.

We look towards the future alongside our community, which has been integral to our long and successful history.

### By Dario Nelli/Lucia Moon

This piece of history appeared in the Monday November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 edition of *Il Globo*.

## 123<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Lunch

The President Dr. Dominic Barbaro, AM, Committee, friends and supporters of the Dante Alighieri Society Melbourne are pleased to have celebrated the 123<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Dante Alighieri Society on Sunday the 28<sup>th</sup> of July at the Toscana Social Club.



## FUTURE EVENTS – 2020

### L'amore nella Vita Nuova

Un'esplorazione dell'autobiografia dantesca centrata sui vari affetti del poeta  
Un corso presentato da Dante Alighieri Giovani – Melbourne



**Durata:** 10 settimane – non è necessario né partecipare ad ogni sessione né aver già studiato Dante

**Orario:** 18:30-20:00 – ogni mercoledì, da partire dal 15/1/2020

**Dove:** Società Dante Alighieri, 308 Drummond St, Carlton VIC 3053

**Prezzo:** Soci \$30, Non-Soci \$50 – dettagli sul modulo d'iscrizione online:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1u4Q8kA3CE3cy5ILFO01KYy0sQR8KqXwRgXGXULbM90E>

### Rinnoviamoci!

Ulteriori informazioni: 0457 922 877 (Nicholas Sgro-Traikovski)

Sponsorizzato dalla Società Dante Alighieri – Sede Centrale Roma



Immagine originale: 'Dante and Beatrice' - Henry Holiday (1883)  
Paradiso 21.1 – Dante fissa Beatrice – Gustave Doré



website: [www.dantealighierimelbourne.com.au](http://www.dantealighierimelbourne.com.au)  
giovani.dante.melbourne@gmail.com  
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**David**

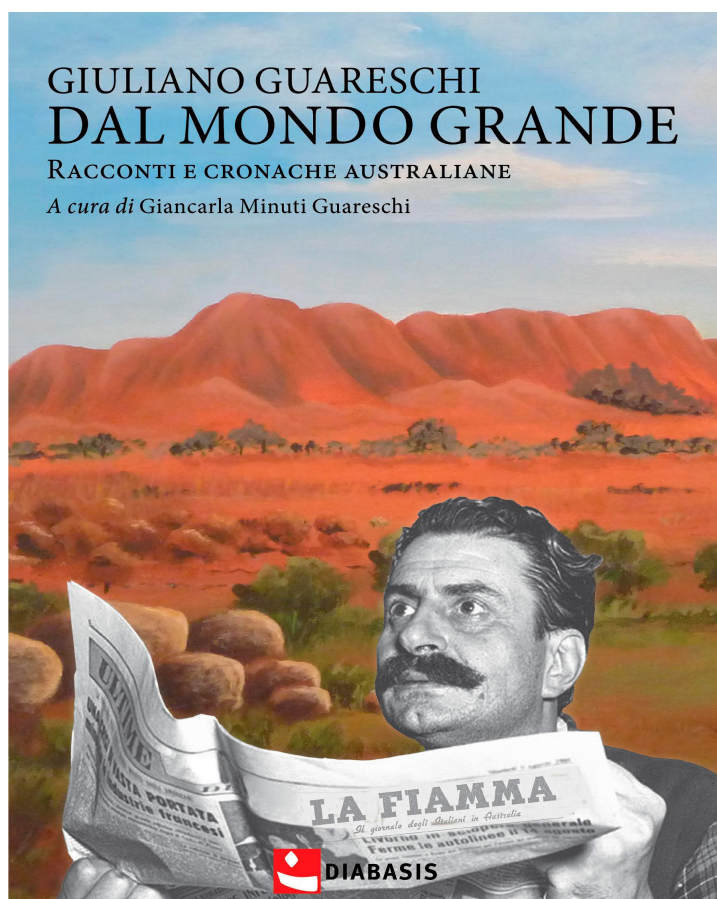
*"Reading and studying many canticles from Inferno has helped me to discover so much history and other classical literature that I was not aware of and hadn't read. Inferno has opened my eyes and given me an appreciation for Dante's masterpiece and how much more I have to learn just from his first volume. I loved it!!!"*

**Maureen**

*Dr Simon West is a poet and Italianist. He is the author of three volumes of poetry and an edition of the Italian poet Guido Cavalcanti. His most recent book *The Ladder*, published by Puncher & Wattmann, was shortlisted for the Prime Minister's Literary Awards in 2016. He completed his PhD on poetry and translation at the University of Melbourne where it was awarded the Chancellor's prize. He has taught Dante's Divine Comedy for over ten years at the University of Melbourne to many enthusiastic students.*

**For further enquiries please contact:** Dante Alighieri Society Office Ph: 9349 1143 Email: [dante.alighieri.melbourne@gmail.com](mailto:dante.alighieri.melbourne@gmail.com)  
or Mary Marcuccio Email: [ammaruccio@hotmail.com](mailto:ammaruccio@hotmail.com)

## **SOCIETÀ DANTE ALIGHIERI MELBOURNE**



### **PRESENTAZIONE DEL LIBRO...**

**Dal Mondo Grande**

**Giuliano Guareschi**

*A cura di Giancarla Minuti Guareschi*

**26 March 2020**

**CoAsIt – Sala Conferenza**

Con la partecipazione di Gabriella Gommersall-Hubbard, Claudia McLean and Mary Marcuccio

Ulteriori informazioni prossimamente...



## YEAR 11 & 12 ITALIAN CONVERSATION SUPPORT PROGRAM



**This program will continue in 2020!**  
**For full information related to venues  
and costs please refer to VCE  
Conversation Classes on the website.**

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***Your membership assists our continued work.***

**DANTE ALIGHIERI SOCIETY MELBOURNE**  
(ABN 96 825 068 670)

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